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1: Acta Psychiatr Scand 1997 Oct;96(4):295-300 [Related Articles](#), [Books](#), [LinkOut](#)

NEW:

Platelet monoamine oxidase activity in relation to alleles of dopamine D4 receptor and tyrosine hydroxylase genes.

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Human personality characteristics and vulnerability to psychopathology are to a large extent dependent upon genetic factors which have yet to be fully defined. The allele distribution of the dopamine D4 receptor (D4DR) and thrombocyte monoamine oxidase (trbc MAO) activity have both been associated with personality traits which are supposedly related, namely 'sensation seeking' according to Zuckerman and 'novelty seeking' according to Cloninger, respectively. In this report, the D4DR allele distribution and trbc MAO activity were studied in 31 psychiatric patients and 21 control subjects. Trbc MAO activity is a biochemical marker of personality that has been shown to be under strong genetic influence. However, no association between the D4DR alleles and trbc MAO could be observed in this material. To our knowledge, this is the first report comparing these two markers, and based upon the results obtained, we speculate that they may be connected with different types of overlapping personality characteristics. The allele distribution of the tyrosine hydroxylase (TH) gene was also determined. TH is the rate-limiting enzyme in the biosynthesis of catecholamines, and it is believed to be involved in different kinds of psychopathology. No covariation between TH gene alleles and trbc MAO activity or D4DR alleles was observed in this material.

PMID: 9350959 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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